

## IN THE CLAIMS

Following is a complete set of claims as amended with this response, which includes amendments to claims 1, 3, 10, 18, 20, 27, 35, 37, and 44.

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1           1.       (currently amended) A method to manage congestion in a network, the  
2 method comprising:  
3           determining a congestion status associated with a node in the network ; and  
4           ~~advertising~~ broadcasting the congestion status to at least one other node in the  
5 network.

1           2.       (original) The method of claim 1 wherein determining the congestion  
2 status comprises:  
3           measuring a node condition at the node, the node condition corresponding to the  
4 congestion status.

1           3.       (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~advertising~~  
2 broadcasting the connection status comprises:  
3           setting a transit flag, the transit flag being accessible to the at least one other node.

1           4.       (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the node is one of a transit node  
2 and a terminating node.

1           5.       (original) The method of claim 4 wherein the node is a logical node in a  
2 hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group of nodes.

1           6.       (original) The method of claim 5 wherein the at least one other node is  
2 one other logical node in the hierarchical network, the one other logical node  
3 corresponding to one other peer group of nodes.

1           7.       (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the network is an asynchronous  
2 mode transfer (ATM) network.

1           8.       (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the node is one of a private  
2 network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1           9.       (original) The method of claim 8 wherein the transit flag is one of a PNNI  
2 topology state parameter.

1           10.      (currently amended) A method to manage congestion in a network, the  
2 method comprising:

3           receiving a congestion status associated with a node in the network, the  
4 congestion status corresponding to a measured node condition at the node and being  
5 broadcast by the node; and

6           routing a call to the node based on the received congestion status.

1           11.      (original) The method of claim 10 wherein receiving the congestion status  
2 comprises accessing a transit flag set by the node, the transit flag corresponding to the  
3 congestion status.

1           12.      (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the node is one of a transit  
2 node and a terminating node.

1           13.      (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the node is a logical node in a  
2 hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group of nodes.

1           14.      (original) The method of claim 13 wherein routing the call to the node  
2 comprises:

3           routing the call to the node if the node is a terminating node; and

4           routing the call to the node if the node is a transit node and the congestion status  
5 indicates that the node is not congested.

1           15.      (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the network is an  
2 asynchronous mode transfer (ATM) network.

1 16. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the node is one of a private  
2 network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1 17. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein the transit flag is one of a  
2 PNNI topology state parameter.

1 18. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising:  
2 a computer usable medium having computer program code embodied therein for  
3 managing congestion in a network, the computer program product having:  
4 computer readable program code for determining a congestion status associated  
5 with a node in the network ; and  
6 computer readable program code for ~~advertising~~ broadcasting the congestion  
7 status to at least one other node in the network.

1 19. (original) The computer program product of claim 18 wherein the  
2 computer readable program code for determining the congestion status comprises:  
3 computer readable program code for measuring a node condition at the node, the  
4 node condition corresponding to the congestion status.

1 20. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 18 wherein  
2 the computer readable program code for ~~advertising~~ broadcasting the connection status  
3 comprises:  
4 computer readable program code for setting a transit flag, the transit flag being  
5 accessible to the at least one other node.

1 21. (original) The computer program product of claim 18 wherein the node is  
2 one of a transit node and a terminating node.

1 22. (original) The computer program product of claim 21 wherein the node is  
2 a logical node in a hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group  
3 of nodes.

1           23.   (original) The computer program product of claim 22 wherein the at least  
2 one other node is one other logical node in the hierarchical network, the one other logical  
3 node corresponding to one other peer group of nodes.

1           24.   (original) The computer program product of claim 23 wherein the  
2 network is an asynchronous mode transfer (ATM) network.

1           25.   (original) The computer program product of claim 24 wherein the node is  
2 one of a private network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1           26.   (original) The computer program product of claim 25 wherein the transit  
2 flag is one of a PNNI topology state parameter.

1           27.   (currently amended) A computer program product comprising:  
2 a computer usable medium having computer program code embodied therein for  
3 managing congestion in a network, the computer program product having:  
4 computer readable program code for receiving a congestion status associated with  
5 a node in the network, the congestion status corresponding to a measured node condition  
6 at the node and being broadcast by the node; and  
7 computer readable program code for routing a call to the node based on the  
8 received congestion status.

1           28.   (original) The computer program product of claim 27 wherein the  
2 computer readable program code for receiving the congestion status comprises computer  
3 readable program code for accessing a transit flag set by the node, the transit flag  
4 corresponding to the congestion status.

1           29.   (original) The computer program product of claim 28 wherein the node is  
2 one of a transit node and a terminating node.

1           30.   (original) The computer program product of claim 29 wherein the node is  
2 a logical node in a hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group  
3 of nodes.

1           31.   (original) The computer program product of claim 30 wherein the  
2 computer readable program code for routing the call to the node comprises:  
3           computer readable program code for routing the call to the node if the node is a  
4 terminating node; and  
5           computer readable program code for routing the call to the node if the node is a  
6 transit node and the congestion status indicates that the node is not congested.

1           32.   (original) The computer program product of claim 28 wherein the  
2 network is an asynchronous mode transfer (ATM) network.

1           33.   (original) The computer program product of claim 32 wherein the node is  
2 one of a private network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1           34.   (original) The computer program product of claim 33 wherein the transit  
2 flag is one of a PNNI topology state parameter.

1           35.   (currently amended) A system interfacing to a network comprising:  
2 a processor coupled to the network; and  
3 a memory coupled to the processor, the memory containing program code for  
4 managing congestion in the network, the program code when executed causing the  
5 processor to:  
6           determine a congestion status associated with a node in the network, and  
7           advertising broadcasting the congestion status to at least one other node in the  
8 network.

1           36.   The system of claim 35 wherein the program code causing the processor to  
2 determine the congestion status causes the processor to:

3           measure a node condition at the node, the node condition corresponding to the  
4 congestion status.

1           37.     (currently amended) The system of claim 35 wherein the program code  
2 causing the processor to ~~advertising~~ broadcasting the connection status causes the  
3 processor to:  
4           set a transit flag, the transit flag being accessible to the at least one other node.

1           38.     (original) The system of claim 35 wherein the node is one of a transit  
2 node and a terminating node.

1           39.     (original) The system of claim 38 wherein the node is a logical node in a  
2 hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group of nodes.

1           40.     (original) The system of claim 39 wherein the at least one other node is  
2 one other logical node in the hierarchical network, the one other logical node  
3 corresponding to one other peer group of nodes.

1           41.     (original) The system of claim 40 wherein the network is an asynchronous  
2 mode transfer (ATM) network.

1           42.     (original) The system of claim 41 wherein the node is one of a private  
2 network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1           43.     (original) The system of claim 42 wherein the transit flag is one of a  
2 PNNI topology state parameter.

1           44.     (currently amended) A system interfacing to a network comprising:  
2 a processor coupled to the network; and  
3 a memory coupled to the processor, the memory containing program code for  
4 managing congestion in the network, the program code when executed causing the  
5 processor to:

6 receive a congestion status associated with a node in the network, the congestion  
7 status corresponding to a measured node condition at the node and being broadcast by the  
8 node, and

9 route a call to the node based on the received congestion status.

1 45. (original) The system of claim 44 wherein the program code causing the  
2 processor to receive the congestion status causes the processor to access a transit flag set  
3 by the node, the transit flag corresponding to the congestion status.

1 46. (original) The system of claim 45 wherein the node is one of a transit  
2 node and a terminating node.

1 47. (original) The system of claim 46 wherein the node is a logical node in a  
2 hierarchical network, the logical node corresponding to a peer group of nodes.

1 48. (original) The system of claim 47 wherein the program code causing the  
2 processor to route the call to the node causes the processor to:  
3 route the call to the node if the node is a terminating node; and  
4 route the call to the node if the node is a transit node and the congestion status  
5 indicates that the node is not congested.

1 49. (original) The system of claim 45 wherein the network is an asynchronous  
2 mode transfer (ATM) network.

1 50. (original) The system of claim 49 wherein the node is one of a private  
2 network-to-network interface (PNNI) node.

1 51. (original) The system of claim 50 wherein the transit flag is one of a  
2 PNNI topology state parameter.